FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 JUNE 1985

Hostages Crisis

France will permit its embassy in Beirut to be used as a neutral site for the U.S. hostages but their transfer must be "unconditional" and there is no question of France becoming a mediator or negotiator, French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas stated in a 27 June radio interview reported by AFP. In Beirut, the French charge d'affaires asked Amal movement leader Nabih Birri to clarify his proposals, according to Beirut radio, and he earlier denied that France had accepted Birri's proposal in a statement to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

As for the Lebanese detainees in Israel, Jerusalem radio asserted that Israel will be prepared to release "hundreds" of detainees soon, while trying to maintain the appearance of not giving in to terrorism and making the move "in its own good time." Nevertheless, Israel's intention of releasing around 70 more Shi'ite detainees on 27 June will probably be delayed because Israel does not want to be seen as "paying for" the release of U.S. hostage Jimmy Dell Palmer, according to Jerusalem sources cited by the radio.

In a separate development, Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki sent a message to the UN secretary general protesting U.S. threats to take military measures against Libya, Syria, and Iran as a result of the hijacking. Al-Turayki's statement, which was carried by JANA, noted that Libya has condemned the hijacking, which may have been a "plot" involving the United States and "terrorist elements" in Amal aimed at providing the Americans with an excuse to strike at those countries that do not submit to U.S. hegemony.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq's 3d Army attacked Iranian forces along a 1,200 meter front in the southern Majnun oil field early 27 June, destroying enemy positions and killing 108 Iranian soldiers, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. An Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio the previous day had claimed further successes for Iran in the southern marshes, asserting that Iranian troops killed over 100 Iraqis in the Hawr al-'Azim region.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Iraqi Foreign Policy — In remarks cited by INA, a Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed Iraq's concern over Libya's decision to establish a joint political and military committee with Iran, as announced in the 23 June Iranian-Libyan communique. First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan warned in Cairo that Libya's supply of missiles to Iran "will not go unpunishhed", MENA reported, and he claimed that Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary al-Turayki admitted during a recent visit to Baghdad that Libya is supplying missiles and missile crews to Iran. As for his talks with Egyptian officials, Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the understanding between the two sides on all issues discussed, noting that while they are avoiding discussing the restoration of diplomatic relations, Iraq's relations with Egypt are better than its relations with many states with which it maintains diplomatic relations. Concerning possible summit talks between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Husni Mubarak, Ramadan said an exchange of visits "on all levels" is expected, according to Cairo radio. Meanwhile, Saddam Husayn discussed the Palestinian and Arab situation in talks with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, INA noted.

Libyan Response to Iraq — The Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau responded in kind to Iraq's move, issuing a statement over Tripoli radio that urged the Arab League and Islamic Conference Organization to expel the "fascist" Iraqi regime in view of its dealings with Egypt, exemplified by Ramadan's visit to Cairo, "the defeatist capital," where he allegedly met with the Israeli ambassador to Egypt. Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi denounced the Iraqi decision in a telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who affirmed Syria's full support for the Jamahiriyah, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported.

Iran

Rafsanjani Tour — Commenting on his tour of the PRC and Japan in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the two countries are both important to Iran politically and economically, adding that Japan can fill many of the technical and industrial "vacuums" created in Iran by the departure of U.S. and European companies. The Majlis speaker is expected to discuss the future of the petrochemical project at Bandar-e Khomeyni in his talks with Japanese officials, IRNA noted.

Internal Politics — The resignation or impending dismissal of Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi was reported by the clandestine radios Iran and Nejat-e Iran, with the latter contending that Musavi's dismissal would be a victory for Hashemi-Rafsanjani in his rivalry with President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Egyptian Security Measures

Security measures are being adopted at all ports and airports to ensure that no "suspect elements" enter Egypt and that no weapons or explosives can be smuggled in, Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi announced in remarks reported by Cairo radio. The security services are closely watching the activities of extremist elements inside the country, he noted. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated that weapons could not have been smuggled aboard the hijacked TWA plane at Cairo airport, contending that the security measures used at the airport exclude this possibility, according to MENA.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 124 *27 June 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Pakistani Forces Reported Training Afghan Rebels ..... C 1
BAKHTAR Assails Brzezinski Testimony to Congress ..... C 1
BAKHTAR Commentator Views Zhao Ziyang Statements ..... C 2

BANGLADESH

President Ershad To Begin PRC Visit 4 July ..... D 1
Iran's Besharati Meets Ershad, Other Ministers ..... D 1
Delivers Khamene'i Message to Ershad *[IRNA]* ..... D 1
17 Killed in Northeast Floods; 600,000 Affected *[AFP]* ..... D 1
Troops Evacuating Victims *[AFP]* ..... D 1

INDIA

Gandhi Hopes For Sri Lanka Solution by Negotiation *[AFP]* ..... E 1
Gandhi Says U.S. Looking At New Economic Order ..... E 1
Home Ministry Denies Opposition's Phones Tapped ..... E 1
Violence Costs Gujarat 1.7 Billion Dollars *[AFP]* ..... E 1
100 Deaths Reported After 2 Weeks of Monsoon Rains *[AFP]* ..... E 2
Commentator Charges West Sheltering Terrorists ..... E 2

PAKISTAN

Foreign Minister Terms Afghan Talks 'Positive' ..... F 1
State Minister Denies USSR Soldiers Crossed Border *[JASARAT 12 Jun]* ..... F 1
USSR-Afghan Soldiers Killed in Paktia Clash ..... F 1
Delhi Reports Bomb Explosion in Peshawar 25 Jun *[Delhi]* ..... F 1
THE MUSLIM Comments on Indian Leader's Trip *[18 Jun]* ..... F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

NEPAL

Ministry Spokesman Denies Sikh Links in Bombing ..... G 1
Ministry Criticizes Media ..... G 1
Bomb on Bus; Antiterrorist Bill To Be Introduced ..... G 1
Former Government Leaders Condemn Terrorism ..... G 1
Editorial Calls For Measures Against Terrorism *[THE RISING NEPAL 23 Jun]* ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

SUN Cites Minister on 'Cessation of Hostilities' *[19 Jun]* ..... G 2
Government Criticizes LTTE Leader Statement ..... G 3
Positive Reaction to Announced Peace Talks ..... G 3
Interpol Report Cited on Arms Smuggling ..... G 4

IRAN

Majlis Speaker, Delegation Leave for PRC, Tokyo ..... I 1
Cables Pakistan's Ziaul Haq ..... I 1

Interviewed on Visit ..... I 1
Prime Minister Regrets Closure of Daily ..... I 2
Montazeri Advises on How To Deal With Sinners ..... I 2
Tehran Notes Iraq's Severing of Ties With Libya ..... I 2
Tehran Notes Kuwait Deportation of Iranians ..... I 3
IRNA Reports New Navy Commander Appointed ..... I 3
Letters on Appointment ..... I 3
IRNA Reports on 26 June Majlis Session ..... I 3
Commentary on U.S. 'Plots' Against Palestinians ..... I 4
Ba'labakk Muslims Warn U.S. Against Using Naval Force ..... I 4
Tehran: United States Uses Threats, Not Action ..... I 5
Tehran Claims Iraq Behind Gulf Terrorism ..... I 5
Further on Attack on Amir ..... I 6
IRNA: 100 Kurdish Rebels Killed in Kordestan ..... I 6
Reportage, Comment on War With Iraq ..... I 6
Jerusalem-II Successes ..... I 6
Communique No 2,126 ..... I 6
Further Details ..... I 7
Kurds Attack Iraqi Command HQ ..... I 7
Iraqi Counterattacks Thwarted ..... I 7
Radio Iran Reports Musavi Resignation ..... I 7
Nejat-e Iran on Dismissal Rumors ..... I 7
Nejat-e Iran on Resumption of Iraqi Bombing ..... I 8

Pakistani Forces Reported Training Afghan Rebels

LD270625 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 26, BAKHTAR — With the conversion of Pakistan into the US gendarme in the region, the present Washington administration has launched one of the greatest secret operations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan after the war in Vietnam, writes a commentator of daily *HAQIQAT-E-ENQILAB-E-SAUR*.

At the moment, in and around many Pakistani cities camps for training of Afghan counter-revolutionaries have sprung up and military installations being set up on various points at Mekran coast. The concentration of sophisticated U.S. weapons and military hardwares in Pakistan serves to further the ominous objectives of the White House chiefs and the military regime of Pakistan for converting the territory of Pakistan into a major field of anti-Afghan operations.

After the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan, the militarists of Islamabad on the instruction of their imperialist patrons adopted the policy of direct confrontation against the DRA. Of late they have been widening the dimensions of the undeclared war by committing repeated flagrant border violations.

The training of the Afghan counter-revolutionary bands within the units of the Armed Forces of Pakistan is indicative of the real intentions of the Pakistani authorities for the realization of the aims of Washington against the DRA.

The military advisers from the imperialist countries and the military officers of Pakistan are conducting the military training and guiding the subversive activities of the Afghan counter-revolutionary scum in over 120 camps in that country. After the completion of terrorist trainings and special courses which included courses in the using of anti-aircraft rockets as well as reactive rockets, the hirelings of imperialism are despatched for carrying out murder and plunder to Afghanistan.

After the April Revolution in Afghanistan, the military regime of Pakistan came to enjoy ever more extensive material and moral support of the USA, China, Egypt, Britain, Saudi Arabia and other allies of imperialism. The rulers of that country seek to lead to cul-de-sac and even torpedo the efforts for politically resolving the problems around Afghanistan and reducing tension in the region, in order to get more military and monetary doles from the imperialism and world reaction and to prolong the life of the military regime in Pakistan.

The Government of the DRA which consistently adheres to the principles of non-alignment has manifested its goodwill for politically resolving the situation around Afghanistan.

The irresponsible approach of the military authorities of Pakistan to the peaceful proposals of Afghanistan will not result in anything else except in posing a threat to peace in the region and the world, the daily concludes.

BAKHTAR Assails Brzezinski Testimony to Congress

LD270633 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, June 26, BAKHTAR — A special U.S. Congress group on Afghanistan has held "hearings" on the so-called "efficient public diplomacy" whose goal is to broaden American aid to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

Among the speakers at the hearings was Zbigniew Brzezinski. In his time as U.S. president aide on national security he made a trip to a Pakistani-Afghan border area and fired from a submachine-gun in the direction of Afghanistan.

What did Brzezinski speak about? He advocated a certain "mutually-acceptable settlement" of the situation around Afghanistan by, as he said, "increasing the efficiency" of the counter-revolutionary forces' operations against the People's Republic of Afghanistan and demanded that arms supplies to the counter-revolutionaries be increased and the standards of their training raised, allowing them to handle the most up-to-date weapons.

So as the U.S. officials see it, the situation can be settled by escalating the undeclared war still further and fanning more tension in the region. This position of strength approach in foreign politics is fairly typical of the current U.S. Administration.

The question arises: Who can qualify this "settlement" as mutually acceptable? Brzezinski gave an answer to this question by pointing to a link between the U.S. "national interests" and the activities of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

One can expect the most untoward consequences each time the U.S. "national interests" come to fore. Small Grenada was occupied and the American Marines were landed on the Lebanese coast in the U.S. "interests". The war which the U.S. Administration describes as "the war to the last Afghan" is waged in the U.S. national interests, too. It is in these very interests that the blood of innocent people is being shed in Afghanistan. The weapons Brzezinski was so ardently advocating and the U.S. money were used to commit the most barbaric of the crimes.

The grenade explosion in a Herat Madrasah [religious institute]which left 10 children badly wounded — the children who practiced the art of reciting Koran — is just one of the latest series of terrorist acts committeed by the counter-revolutionaries.

However, the suffering and blood of the Afghan people costing one billion American dollars seems just a taster to them. Brzezinski insists that arms supplies to the Ziaul Haq regime be increased, too, and thus the Pakistani involvement in this criminal undeclared war against the Afghan people is broadened.

The U.S. "national interests" of this sort go against the national interests of the Asian countries which aspire for peace and oppose confrontation.

BAKHTAR Commentator Views Zhao Ziyang Statements
LD252358 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY political commentator writes: The prime minister of China, Zhao Ziyang who, in continuation of his trips to the West, has arrived in Pakistan, in an interview with the Pakistan television has mentioned the similarity of the stands of China and Pakistan concerning the undeclared imperialist war against the DRA.

Praising the stand of Pakistan concerning those savage forces, who are engaged in war and subversion against our country, Zhao Ziyang said: China appreciates Pakistan's stand in this regard.

As a close partner of U.S. imperialism in the undeclared war against the DRA, China plays an active role in this filthy war against our homeland, people, and revolution. Undoubtedly Washington-Beijing-Islamabad military cooperation is following the target of persistant tension in South Asia and is achieving imperialist goals under this pretext.

The similarity of Beijing's stand with that of the United States and the regime of General Zia is undoubtedly great; all three are partners in the imperialist undeclared war against our country. There are over 100 camps for the murdering Afghan counterrevolutionary elements in that country. Also professional murderers and the enemies of our people are trained in the Sinkiang Province of China, close to our border.

At present China not only gives military training to the Afghan counterevolutionaries, teaching them subversive skills by sending Chinese instructors to the Afghan counterrevolutionary camps in Pakistan, but also supplies them with Chinese weapons and equipment in order to kill innocent people in our country and engage in subversion.

According to reports from international media Beijing has supplied arms to the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands through Pakistan which are worth about $400 million during the last 5 years. Already during 1364 [beginning 21 March] they have supplied the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with 300 missiles; more than 1,000 anti-tank weapons; more than 10,000 machineguns; 20,000 boxes of ammunition; a large number of recoilless rifles; and heavy machineguns and mortars. An English language weekly [name indistinct] last year specifically singled out the names of Saudi Arabia, Israel, and China as countries providing 200 million dollars in materiel to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

Why has Beijing chosen such a stand against our revolution and people? China practically walks into the steps of the U.S. imperialism in Southeast and South Asia and the military cooperation between the U.S. imperialism and the Chinese hegemonism is based on the similarity of the Washington-Beijing strategy.

In this regard we can mention the similarity of stands of the United States and China concerning the DRA and Indochina. Based on its hegemonist expansionism, China has drawn a geographical map which shows that some countries have been taken by force from the Chinese soil, including a part of the DRA soil. A large number of independent and free countries have been armed as parts of the Chinese territory in this map.

The similarity of positions between China and the militarist regime of Ziaul Haq, which has transformed its soil as an aggressive imperialist base against our homeland and people, is not surprising to our people, because Islamabad -- as a protector of the interests of the United States and, according to the statement of Zhao Ziyang, keeping close relations with Beijing -- is at the center of the tripartite military unity of Washington-Beijing-Islamabad.

The designs of Beijing, Reagan's administration and the militarist regime of Ziaul Haq cannot stand before the firm unbreakable will of the Afghan nation, which enjoys the support of all forces of peace and social progress of the world, headed by the Soviet Union. History has proved such designs futile many times.

President Ershad To Begin PRC Visit 4 July

BK261557 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] President Hussain Mohammad Ershad will pay a week-long state visit to China beginning on the 4th of next month. The visit is in response to an invitation of President Li Xiannian. Begum Raushan Ershad will accompany him. The presidential entourage will include among others the law and justice minister, Justice A.K.M. Nurul Islam; and foreign affairs adviser Humanyun Rashid Chowdhury.

The two presidents will discuss bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern. The two sides are expected to explore greater possibilities of bilateral cooperation in various fields including economy, culture, trade, and technology. Officials accompanying the Bangladesh president are expected to follow up the execution of the shipping and air services agreement between the two friendly countries.

Iran's Besharati Meets Ershad, Other Ministers

BK261558 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] The visiting special envoy of Iranian President Khamene'i, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, called on President Ershad at Banga Bhavan today. The envoy handed over to the president a message from the Iranian president. The Bangladesh foreign secretary and the Iranian ambassador in Dhaka were present on the occasion.

Mr Besharati also met separately the deputy chief martial law administration and industries minister, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud; the foreign affairs adviser, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury; and the food minister, Major General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury, in Dhaka today. During the meetings they discussed matters of mutual concern. The recent cyclone and the present flood situation in the country also came up for discussion.

Delivers Khamene'i Message to Ershad

LD262318 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Dhaka, June 26, IRNA — Iran's deputy foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati who is visiting here, reiterated Wednesday that Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi Ba'thist regime should be condemned for frequent deployment of chemical weapons, attacks on residential areas, ports and oil terminals in Iran, and making sea navigation routes unsafe.

Talking with Bangladesh's president, Mohammad Ershad, Besharati added that Iraq started its aggression against Iran at a time that Iranian people were reconstructing the country after the downfall of the ex-shah.

At this meeting, the Iranian deputy foreign minister handed a message from President Khamene'i to his Bangladesh counterpart. He also voiced condolences on behalf of the Islamic Republic and Iranian people for the recent cyclone in Bangladesh in which an estimate of 15,000 people were killed.

Ershad thanked Besharati for President Khamene'i's message as well as Iran's expression of sympathy. He also reiterated his country's condemnation of deployment of chemical weapons as well as attacks on civilians.

17 Killed in Northeast Floods; 600,000 Affected

HK260901 Hong Kong AFP in English 0839 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Dhaka, June 26 (AFP) — Monsoon floods in northeastern Bangladesh have killed at least 17 people and affected around 600,000 in the last two weeks, officials said today.

Local officials in Maulvi Bazar, the worst affected district, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in a telephone interview that 10 people drowned in the flood waters while others died of diarrheal diseases and snake bites. They said that about 600,000 people in Maulvi Bazar were affected by the flood waters which had engulfed about 600 square miles (150 square kilometres) in the district. The latest official figures here said that floods had affected 1.87 million people over an area of 1,652 square miles (4130 square kilometres).

The floods had started to abate, however, and over 15,000 people who had sought refuge in safer places were returning to their homes, officials in the northeast said. "There are signs the flood situation is improving as the water has started to recede," an official at the district relief control room said. No significant rainfall had occured in the last few days, he added. The flood forecasting centre said they expected the situation to improve further in the next few days.

Meanwhile, officials here said that they had no report of any widespread epidemic of diarrheal diseases in the three flood affected northeastern districts of Maulvi Bazar, Sylhet, and Habiganj.

Troops Evacuating Victims

HK270931 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Dhaka, June 27 (AFP) — Troops today were evacuating residents from Bangladesh's northeastern Sylhet District where floods reportedly have killed 23 people and marooned 300,000 since yesterday. The figure brings the death toll after two weeks of monsoons to 40. The latest official figures show that about two million people in the four northeastern districs of Maulvi Bazar, Sylhet, Habiganj and Sunamganj have been affected by the floods.

Officials told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the flood situation had worsened in Sylhet District following a heavy downpour yesterday. Reports said about 300,000 people in five sub-districts were marooned and 23 killed, according to unofficial figures. Officials at the district headquarters at Sylhet Town told AFP that troops had been sent to Biani Bazar and Balaganj sub-districts to help evacuate people.

Floodwater in the district earlier had appeared to be receding, with the water levels of the Rivers Khowai and Surma registering substantial falls. Water development board sources here said that

the receding had appeared in the upper reaches but floods coupled with rains had now engulfed new areas downstream. Experts said they believed that the situation would improve soon if there were no significant rains in the next few days.

The national news agency BSS today reported that the flood situation in Maulvi Bazar, the worst hit district, had improved since yesterday with the water level of the River Manu abating fast. The river earlier had crossed the danger level but today was flowing 1.55 feet (half meter) below that level.

Officials here said that medical teams had been dispatched to all the northeastern flood areas to watch for the possible breakout of diarrheal epidemics. Officials said that railway communication between Dhaka and the northeastern districts, suspended for the past week, had been restored since yesterday.

Unofficial estimates said that crops on about 600,000 acres (240,000 hectares) in the districts had been damaged and that several thousand homesteads and head of cattle had been washed away. Officials said they could not give a consolidated estimate of the losses so far.

Gandhi Hopes For Sri Lanka Solution by Negotiation

HK271318 Hong Kong AFP in English 1154 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] New Delhi, June 27 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today expressed hope that a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem would be found amicably, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

PTI said two Tamil members of the Indian Parliament, who had called on the prime minister here today, quoted Mr. Gandhi as telling them he hoped the solution would be found shortly through friendly negotiations.

The Sri Lanka Government has announced it would meet with Tamil groups in Bhutan to iron out a solution to a lengthy, bloody separatist campaign.

An Indian newspaper report this week said India was arranging for a "secret meeting" to be held between the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamils in Bhutan.

Gandhi Says U.S. Looking At New Economic Order

BK261607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] The prime minister has said the United States is for the first time showing willingness to talk about the need for a more just and equitable world economic order. He noted that other developed countries are also now showing a greater awareness of the injustice done to the country which were under colonialism and were deprived of all progress. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was speaking at a reception given in his honor by the Association of Indian Diplomats in New Delhi this evening. He said another major shift has been on disarmament. While governments might be producing arms, the mood among the common people is for disarmament because they realize the dangers of stockpiling arms.

The association has about 120 members who have in the past been connected with the conduct of India's foreign policy. The association president, Dr J.M. Khosla, referred to the prime minister's recent foreign tour and said its brilliant success has heartened every Indian and won international acclaim.

Home Ministry Denies Opposition's Phones Tapped

BK261611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] The Home Ministry has categorically denied the allegation made by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, that telephones of some opposition leader and journalists are being tapped. It also denied the charge of Mr Vajpayee that telephones of the president and the chief justice are also being tapped.

In a pressnote issued in New Delhi today, the Home Ministry said there is no truth whatsoever in the allegation that intelligence agencies are being used against political parties.

Violence Costs Gujarat 1.7 Billion Dollars

HK270006 Hong Kong AFP in English 1434 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] New Delhi, June 26 (AFP) — Communal violence in the western Indian State of Gujarat has resulted in lost production and trade worth at least 22 billion rupees (1.74 billion dollars) since March, the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce has said.

A memorandum by the chamber said that violence between high-caste and low-caste Hindus and between Hindus and Moslems since March had caused losses in industrial production of six billion rupees (475 million dollars), the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported.

The chamber's memorandum, submitted to a high-level ruling Congress Party team from New Delhi, said the violence had also caused losses in trade worth 16 billion rupees (1.26 billion dollars), PTI said. The chamber said arsonists and looters had struck at 1,368 shops and industrial units, resulting in damage estimated at about 50 million rupees (about four million dollars).

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi sent the high-level team to Gujarat on Sunday to help the Congress Party-ruled state government bring an end to violence which has claimed many lives since March. Mr. Gandhi summoned the state's chief minister, Madhavsingh Solanki, to New Delhi last week and told him to take immediate steps to curb the violence.

The violence, originally involving Hindus alone, was provoked by a campaign by high-caste Hindus against a government policy of granting job and education privileges to low-caste Hindus. But recently fighting has broken out between Hindus and Moslems in Ahmedabad, the worst-affected city, and other places in the state.

Moslem-Hindu clashes erupted on Thursday, when a Hindu religious procession that coincided with the end of Ramadan, the Moslem holy month, passed through the sensitive Dariapur and Shahpur areas of Ahmedabad. Troops opened fire, killing seven people and wounding eight.

Earlier it was reported that Ahmedabad City Corporation was in financial difficulties, daily revenue having fallen from 1.5 million rupees (119,000 dollars) to 500,000 rupees (about 40,000 dollars) since a general strike on March 18. The general strike, called in protest against privileges for low-caste Hindus, sparked widespread violence.

A curfew has been in force in parts of Ahmedabad for the past four months, and the Army has been brought in to patrol sensitive areas. But the violence has continued, severely disrupting city's trading life, reports said.

The municipal commissioner, R. Basu, told newsmen earlier this month that figures showed that the city had lost imports worth more than 1.5 billion rupees (119 million dollars) up to the end last month. Mr. Basu said that the city's public transport service had also lost 20 million rupees (almost 1.6 million dollars) in revenue, and that mobs had done 10 million rupees-worth (800,000 dollars-worth) of damage to the city's bus fleet.

100 Deaths Reported After 2 Weeks of Monsoon Rains

HK270708 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] New Delhi, June 27 (AFP) — More than 100 people have died in monsoon rains which have swept India in the last two weeks, domestic news agencies reported today. The agencies said that 50 people died in the western state of Maharashtra, 31 in southern Kerala and 20 in northeastern Assam.

They said that most of the deaths in Maharashtra were in the capital Bombay where sea waters whipped up by the rains yesterday flooded tenements forcing 100,000 residents to flee. Residents in the northwest of the city waded waist-deep in water to higher ground to escape the floods and torrential rain.

The floods started to recede yesterday evening, the reports said, but the weather office said that further monsoon rains were expected here and in other parts of northern India over the next 24 hours.

Commentator Charges West Sheltering Terrorists

BK261454 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Commentary by Raghunath Raina, "noted journalist"]

[Text] The crash of the Air India jumbo into the Atlantic on Sunday killing all aboard is the worst tragedy in annals of aviation. On the one hand, it has plunged the nation into mourning over the loss of 329 innocent lives, including children and even infants. On the other hand, it has confronted not only India but the entire world with a fresh challenge to face terrorism of the worst possible kind.

That the crash was the result of sabotage seems to be the only explanation for the sudden disintegration of the Boeing 747. It was on a Montreal-London-New Delhi flight. It took off almost 2 hours behind schedule as detectives of the Canadian bomb squad had been warned of a bomb threat to the aircraft. Why was the aircraft allowed to take off in spite of this warning remains a mystery but needs a convincing explanation. According to air control at Shannon Airport in Ireland, the pilot of the ill-fated aircraft had established contact with the control tower 8 minutes before it crashed. The pilot had reported everything normal. Aviation experts believe that pilot had plenty of time to give the distress signals in case all the four engines of the planehad failed. No such signals were received. Obviously, the catastrophe must have been caused by a bomb.

The Indian prime minister has already instituted a judicial inquiry into the tragedy. All the facts will become known when the report of the inquiry is available.

But meanwhile speculation is bound to continue on some unexplained developments. Quoting Canadian sources, *THE LONDON TIMES* has reported that sniffer dogs went berserk as they checked the luggage which was loaded in the aircraft. Yet, obviously, the luggage carrying the bomb seems to have found its way into the plane without being noticed.

Another aspect of the sabotage is that it seems to have been carried out in a highly planned and sophisticated manner. The operation also included the attempts to blow up another Air India aircraft flying from Tokyo to Bombay on the same day. A container carrying a bomb was booked on a Canadian Pacific Air flight to Tokyo, which was to be transferred to Air India's flight to Bombay. The container blew up 40 minutes after the aircraft landed at Tokyo.

It is obvious that the entire operation was executed by terrorist groups who are either highly trained or who have the support of experts available in North America. This raises many questions.

New Delhi has so far taken a lenient view of the hospitality extended to anti-Indian terrorist groups in Britain, Canada and the U.S.A.. Repeated requests made by the Indian Government for curbing these activities in these countries have not been given the serious attention they deserve. Terrorists were given prime time publicity over the television in Britain. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi himself pointed out that the Federal Bureau Investigation of the United States hadn't given full information about the conspiracy against his life. Many Indian terrorists are known to have been given sanctuary by the Canadian nationals of Indian origin.

But the tragedy of Air India's crash is far too high a price for continued indulgence on the part of India for the lenient attitude of the governments of Canada, Britain and U.S.A. toward anti-Indian activities on their soil. The fact that several terrorist groups have seriously boasted of bringing down the Air India jumbo reveals the impunity with which they are able to operate in host countries where the authorities seem to be unconcerned at India's suffering. It may be [words indistinct] that the only way of curbing the terrorism is for India to make friendship with these three and other governments conditional on the control they exercise over murderers and saboteurs masquerading as political dissidents.

Foreign Minister Terms Afghan Talks 'Positive'

BK270758 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that the result of the fourth round of talks on Afghanistan is positive and it has helped improve the talks process and maintain its pace. He was speaking to newsmen at the Islamabad airport on his return from Geneva after the talks. He said progress in the talks can be presumed from the fact that the date of the next round of talks has been fixed for 27 August this year.

The foreign minister said Pakistan considers these talks positive and constructive. He said he had felt that there would not be any remarkable success but he was extremely hopeful (?of some outcome) that would be a step toward eventual success. He said he was not disappointed. He said there is no change in the four factors of the policy. They are the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan, matters pertaining to noninterference, the return of refugees to their homeland, and international guarantees.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan views as important the matter of the withdrawal of foreign forces and the time frame in which it is accomplished. He said that Pakistan has agreed that setting the time frame for the withdrawal of foreign forces is an important step which would lead to success in the settlement of this problem.

State Minister Denies USSR Soldiers Crossed Border

GF261822 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 12 Jun 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Islamabad, 11 June — The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, today denied in the national assembly that some Soviet soldiers had entered Pakistan over the Durand Line. Mr Mohammad Zaman had asked that according to his information, some Soviet soldiers had crossed the border into Pakistan on 18 March. He asked what the Soviets were doing and how long they had stayed in Pakistan.

Mr Zain Noorani said that this story was reported in the international media but it was totally false. Nothing of the sort had happened. No Soviet soldiers had crossed our border. When asked why the government did not refute this news, Mr Zain Noorani said that it was not possible to refute every false report.

USSR-Afghan Soldiers Killed in Paktia Clash

BK251038 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] In Afghanistan, a number of Soviet-Karmal troops are reported to have been either killed or injured in a clash with freedom fighters near Gardez in Paktia Province. A number of Soviet-Karmal tanks and armored vehicles were also hit and destroyed.

In another encounter, freedom fighters ambushed a military convoy of Soviet-Karmal troops, which was on its way from Kabul to Paktia last week. The freedom fighters also captured a large number of weapons during the encounter.

Delhi Reports Bomb Explosion in Peshawar 25 Jun

BK261413 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] In Pakistan, three people were killed and two injured in a bomb explosion in Peshawar yesterday. Official sources in Islamabad today has said the bomb shattered the car in which the victims were travelling. Another bomb exploded later in an Afghan refugee camp destroying a fuel tanker. There were no casualties in this, the sources added.

THE MUSLIM Comments on Indian Leader's Trip

GF261904 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 Jun 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Rajiv's Occidental Odyssey"]

[Text] The Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has returned from an apparently successful visit to the United States. In a bid to woo the young technologically minded, non-ideological leader of India and the current Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, the Americans rolled out the red carpet for the visiting VIP in a manner that was probably not witnessed for quite sometime. No observer of the South Asian scene expected Rajiv Gandhi to do a "U" turn on India's foreign policy vis-a-vis the two superpowers but in this "getting to know each other better," phase in Indo-American relations there certainly seems to have been some progress.

The Americans no more treat India's Moscow connection with suspicion: Nor are they questioning India's credentials or its regional ambitions. Additionally, the United States has also expressed its willingness to provide advanced military technology and weaponry to India for the first time since large scale American sales to India ended during the 1965 Pakistan-India conflict.

The tempo for the visit was set by favourable media coverage including an editorial in the influential *NEW YORK TIMES* suggesting "India (finally) waging a sustained campaign for Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, in return for which the United States should indeed draw back from its support to Pakistan."

In a move that suggests that he is growing into an astute politician with a keen eye for PR, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi made the "right kind of noises on Afghanistan" when he addressed the American Congress. In a subtle play of semantics he took a position that drew applause from the Americans while concurrently suggesting to the Soviets that India's policy and posture on the Afghan issue remains unchanged. This is in line with one of the abiding elements of Indian foreign policy: to seek the best of both worlds without allowing itself to be taken for granted by either superpower.

What conclusions should policy makers derive from Rajiv's Occidental odyssey? Even if there was no concrete arrangement

arrived at between India and United States during the Prime Minister's visit, the fact of the matter remains that for the United States their new relationship with Pakistan post-Afghanistan is essentially tactical and therefore subject to change if the ground situation alters.

Secondly, India and the United States share common perceptions on a number of issues: opposition to Pakistan's nuclear programme, recognition of India's pre-eminent status, fear of resurgent Islam, and the need to keep the Russians out of Afghanistan.

Thirdly, in a moment of crunch the geostrategists sitting in Washington have almost always preferred a bigger India to smaller Pakistan, subject, of course, to the former's availability.

We would hope that the Pakistan Government will not be easily rattled by Rajiv's American journey and nor will it try to make puerile attempts to seek reassurance from our distant godfather. If we maturely look at the situation and try not to seek a dependency relationship with the United States, then we will find it easy to bury myths that have consistently surfaced at various moments during our three decades of chequered relationship with America.

Our security is neither depending on the United States nor is our integrity being guaranteed by Washington. Washington will legitimately endeavour to get maximum mileage out of a temporary regional situation which has arisen in Afghanistan after the Soviet invasion.

It will seek the friendship of any country — be it Pakistan or India — which can "play ball" with it, although instinctive American preference will always be for the larger geo-strategic prize. The sooner we understand this home truth, the better it will be for our policy makers and our people.

NEPAL

Ministry Spokesman Denies Sikh Links in Bombing

BK271151 Katmandu External Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] A spokesman of the Communications Ministry has said that his majesty's government has been (?serious) to see foreign newspapers and news agency reports suggesting a link between Sikh or Sikh organizations and the recent bomb explosions in Nepal. From the investigations, (?today) his majesty's government is able to state that no Sikh nor any Sikh organization is implicated in the terrorism which the people of Nepal have been recently subjected to. The Ministry of Communications repeats its call for factual and objective reporting, [word indistinct] for no reason other than adherence to journalistic ethics.

Ministry Criticizes Media

BK261143 Katmandu External Service in English 1045 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] A spokesman of the Communications Ministry of his majesty's government has expressed regret at some of the misreporting by international news agencies on the recent acts of terrorism in the country. A report by REUTER of distribution of leaflets in Katmandu by an organization claiming responsibility for the acts of terrorism has been found to be totally false. REUTER has also reported falsely and tendentiously about the call by former prime ministers of the kingdom. His majesty's government had [words indistinct] objective reporting, however palatable or unpalatable, but any misreporting or misinformation is obviously against the elements or norms of journalistic ethics.

The spokesman said while his majesty's government [words indistinct] to confuse the given situation, his majesty's government is convinced that facts and objective reporting are of the utmost necessity in the struggle against terrorism even in Nepal or anywhere else in the world.

Former prime ministers Kirti Nidhi Bista, Dr Tulsi Giri, and Nagendra Prasad Rijal have described as baseless and misleading a press report circulated by REUTER and other foreign news media that they have called for the revival of the multiparty system regardless of the (?massive) mandate received by the partyless democratic panchayat system in the recent national referendum. The former prime ministers categorically denied that they had ever made a statement of that nature.

Bomb on Bus; Antiterrorist Bill To Be Introduced

HK261042 Hong Kong AFP in English 1012 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Katmandu, June 26 (AFP) — Police were called in earlier this week to explode a bomb found on a passenger bus, Home Minister Jog Mehar Shrestha told parliament yesterday.

Mr. Shrestha said that the bomb was found on a passenger bus which was travelling between the towns of Rajbiraj and Biratnagar 290 kilometres (182 miles) southeast of here. He said that police were called in. They removed all the passengers and exploded the bomb safely. Mr. Shrestha told parliament that it was possible other explosives had been "concealed or left behind" in Nepal.

The country was rocked last Thursday and Friday when a series of bomb blasts here killed eight people. The bomb attacks on the king's palace, the National Assembly building and a top tourist hotel were the first acts of political violence to hit Nepal.

The attacks have been claimed by two leftist groups, the People's Front and the United Liberation Militia.

Meanwhile, Law and Justice Minister Radhye Shyam Kamaro told parliament that the government was to introduce a tough new anti-terrorist bill within the next week. Legal experts here said the proposed new legislation was likely to include the death penalty for anyone found guilty of acts of terrorism.

Meanwhile, a Nepalese Home Ministry source said that the investigation into last week's bomb blasts was still underway, but the government was expected to announce its findings tomorrow.

The government was also likely to seek the assistance of the international police organization Interpol and friendly countries to help combat terrorism in the country, the source added.

Former Government Leaders Condemn Terrorism

BK221648 Katmandu External Service in English 1445 GMT 22 Jun 85

[Text] Former Prime Minister Kharga Prasad Achariya and former foreign minister [name indistinct] in a joint statement published have strongly condemned the acts of terrorism perpetrated in different parts of the country. They said they were always against such acts of violence. They also demanded that his majesty's government should speedily apprehend the culprits and take stern action against such elements.

Editorial Calls For Measures Against Terrorism

BK261656 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 23 Jun 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Nip In The Bud"]

[Text] The recent series of bomb explosions in the country represents a watershed in more ways than one. Here we are mainly concerned with the fact that it has jolted a traditionally peaceful and in many ways innocent people into taking a cold, hard look into the realities of our strife-ridden globe — a world where terrorism in its many ugly manifestations is a brutal fact of life. Not that the Nepalese people, by and large, were unaware of the violence raging through much of the world outside Nepal's borders. Only that in their innocence they somehow believed that terrorism was something that affected others, not themselves.

In a word, then, Nepal can never be quite the same again. It should not, in any case, be so: If it is the first time that the disease of indiscriminate killing has made its presence felt in our land,

we believe that we should be the first to eliminate this cancerous growth that has latched on to Nepal's body. For this it is plain enough that certain measures should be undertaken immediately. The first is, of course, to establish beyond any doubt who is responsible and then mete out the sternest possible punishment. Though for this it may be necessary that existing laws be changed, we are fully confident that the Rastriya Panchayat — itself a target for the yet unknown terrorists — will enact new and appropriate laws to enable our law and order authorities to nip terrorism in the bud.

The organisation, style and dispersal of these acts of violence seem to rule out their being master-minded by Nepalese. But, even in the unlikely event that they were, there can be no two opinions about the urgency of the Government in getting down to the very bottom of the matter and in striking out appropriately and swiftly wherever necessary. For this it is also fairly obvious that all should cooperate with the authorities, specially where identification and supply of important pieces of evidence or information is concerned: as has been so painfully demonstrated over the past few days, terrorism respects no one. This does not mean, however, that we should become hysterical: what is needed, most of all, is for people to maintain a calm and collected posture even as it keeps vigilance and lends every cooperation to the authorities in its urgent task of rooting out every trace of an effort that has proved not only anti-democratic but also anti-people as a whole.

While it is fortunate that no foreigners were victims — as they well might have been given the fact that a Katmandu hotel was the target of one cruel explosion which claimed three precious innocent Nepalese lives — one must take note of the rather heavy influx of foreigners into Nepal. Finally, without casting aspersions on anyone of any country, it is strongly recommended that, in keeping with international norms, we not only maintain an accurate record of foreign nationals in our country but also see to it that entry of foreigners into the country is tightened up considerably.

SRI LANKA

SUN Cites Minister on 'Cessation of Hostilities'

BK261024 Colombo SUN in English 19 Jun 85 p 1,3

[Text] All major terrorist groups have agreed to a moratorium on violence, effective from noon yesterday, as a precursor to the resumption of dialogue to find a political solution.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told a press conference last morning that he had been informed "through third parties", that all the major groups, including the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam led by Vellupillai Prabhakaran had agreed to cease hostilities.

"We have reached a point today where we can look forward confidently to a cessation of hostile acts to create an atmosphere for the resumption of dialogue to reach a political solution", the minister said.

On the part of the government, Mr. Athulathmudali said it proposed not only to adhere to a cessation of hostilities "but would also like to take some positive steps to restore normalcy in the country particularly in the Jaffna Peninsula".

He said that he had already instructed Jaffna government agent K. Panchalingam to proceed with a road repair programme drafted last week. His ministry was now considering other restrictions imposed in the peninsula, since last year, in an attempt to alleviate the problems of the people.

Roads in Jaffna have not been repaired since November last year, when terrorists started mining them he said.

One of the major restrictions which may be lifted, the minister said was the prohibited zone a "cordon sanitaire" laid round the peninsula as a second ring to the surveillance zone declaring a strip of the beach from Mannar to Mullaitivu as 'no man's land'.

"We are concerned about the fishermen who were affected by this restriction imposed in December last year following a threat of a terrorist invasion. We are making every effort to enable these fishermen to go out to sea and earn their living", the minister said.

Mr Athulathmudali explained that the government was diffident on one score — whether all minor and splinter groups among the 35 known terrorist groups had accepted the need for a cessation of hostilities.

We would like to ensure the continuance of a 'no-incidents' situation, but if splinter groups do not adhere to what has now been reached, we would be compelled to take tough action against them," the minister said.

He said the lifting of restrictions in the Northern Province would depend upon whether the cessation of hostilities would continue.

"The people and all the major groups would want us to continue with this approach," he said.

Stressing that the cessation of violence was the first step in reaching a political solution, the minister said the government would keep the people informed of the next steps, at the appropriate time.

He described the development as a direct result of a "process that began on February 9, when I met Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi".

The summit between President J.R. Jayewardene and Premier Gandhi was also a part of the process, he said. Minister Athulathmudali said the government would not adhere to a time frame in announcing the moratorium as "it depends on the compliance to the situation."

It would be shorter if the conditions are adhered to effectively and strictly, he added.

The minister said that the security forces would not be on the "offensive" unless "there is a violation of the conditions agreed

to." The cessation of hostilities, the minister said would not necessarily mean the army would stop its normal activities.

"Reports that the army is confined to barracks are totally incorrect." Maintenance would continue but we will strive to cease hostile incidents" the minister said.

Asked whether the importance placed on cessation of violence reflects an erosion of the role played by the Tamil United Liberation Front, the minister said "the TULF members are opening their mouths and saying things, nothing of much relevance.

Replying to a question as to whether the Government is in contact with the militant groups, the minister said: "The fact that we know they have agreed to a cessation and the fact that I have not spoken to them directly would point to that we are in contact through some other party."

He said that India did play a useful role in reaching a cessation of hostilities.

Government Criticizes LTTE Leader Statement

HK260736 Hong Kong AFP in English 0701 GMT 26 Jun 85

[By Neville De Silva]

[Text] Colombo, June 26 (AFP) — Sri Lankan Government sources today condemned a reported statement by a major militant Tamil group that Colombo was not interested in a "just political solution" to the country's ethnic crisis.

A high-ranking official source who did not want to be named said that this reported statement by the leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) only "weakens moves toward political settlement."

LTTE Leader Velupillair Prabhakaran was quoted as having said yesterday in India that the Sri Lankan Government would never grant autonomy for the north and east, where a section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are waging a bloody campaign for an independent state.

Colombo was not interested in a "just political solution" to the ethnic crisis, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA quoted him as saying.

He also reportedly warned that "the LTTE would not be trapped in a quagmire of talks leading nowhere or lay down arms and seek amnesty."

The LTTE is one of the five major militant Tamil separatist groups which agreed to a cease-fire with Colombo, now in its second week, after the Indian Government brought pressure on the groups' leaders, many of whom are resident in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

Since the end to the hostilities was announced on June 18, only one clash between militants and government troops has been reported in the country.

Security sources here suspect that the Tamil Eelam Army (TEA), one of the 30 other militant groups which have not indicated their acceptance of the cease-fire, was responsible for opening fire on a group of soldiers in the northwestern Mannar District on Monday.

One attacker was shot dead by the troops who returned the fire, security sources said.

Meanwhile, official sources declined to comment on a report in the Calcutta newspaper, *TELEGRAPH*, which said the Indian Government had begun arranging for secret talks — to be held in the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan — between the Sri Lankan Government and militant Tamil leaders.

The report said that Colombo would be represented by either President Junius Jayewardene or National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali.

Informed sources here said it was unlikely that Mr. Jayewardene would participate in any talks at the initial stage. Mr. Athulathmudali is visiting South Korea and is not expected back in Colombo before Friday.

Meanwhile, the main Tamil party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), has still not begun talks with opposition parties here to determine how much autonomy they would agree to.

Observers said it was strongly felt here that no lasting solution to the ethnic issue was possible without a consensus among the Sinhala-dominated political parties.

The *SUN* newspaper, meanwhile, reported today that reconstruction of property damaged during ethnic violence nearly two years ago which left about 400 people dead, mainly Tamils, has cost 133 million rupees (52.8 million dollars).

It said this was in addition to the cost of feeding, housing and rehabilitating around 125,000 persons made homeless by the riots.

The July 1983 riots, triggered by the killing of 13 soldiers in the north by militant Tamil separatists, resulted in widespread arson and looting in several parts of the country and forced thousands of Tamils to flee to the north or seek refuge in make-shift camps.

The Rehabilitation Ministry, set up shortly after the riots, also paid out five million rupees (200,000 dollars) for victims of the violence after processing 350 applications from next of kin, the *SUN* said.

Positive Reaction to Announced Peace Talks

HK270724 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 27 Jun 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, June 27 (AFP) — Sri Lankans today welcomed a government announcement that it would meet with Tamil groups to seek a solution to the lengthy separatist campaign that has left thousands dead.

There has been no independent confirmation from the Tamils that they had agreed to the talks.

A cross section of opinion from the country's main communities contacted by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reacted positively to yesterday's announcement that talks would take place in the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan next month.

The consensus was they hoped the 11-year-old problem, which in recent years has escalated into a bloody conflict that has killed 2,000 people by an unofficial count, would be solved finally.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils have been demanding a separate state in the country's north and east, claiming discrimination by the majority Sinahalas. The government has said it would not consider granting autonomy and would not talk to groups that do not first abandon their separatist calls.

Informed sources said that an agreement to meet indicated that the Tamils would accept an alternative to secession. Many of the community people contacted today said the decision to meet indicated a softening of positions on both sides.

"This shows that both sides are willing to thaw a little and there is a common ground possible," said one source who asked not to be named.

But many warned that the negotiators would have an arduous task ahead as suspicion of insincerity had grown over the years between the two sides.

At the talks to be held in the Bhutanese capital, Thimpu, Sri Lankan officials and representatives of the main Tamil political party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), and five militant Tamil separatist groups will meet for the first time.

The five militant groups and the government are in the second week of a three-month cease-fire. The cease-fire and the groundwork for the talks were arranged by India, informed sources said.

Thirty minor or splinter groups have not indicated their willingness to go along with the cease-fire.

Only one clash has been reported officially since the cease-fire began: A militant was killed in northwestern Mannar when a Tamil group opened fire on some soldiers and the troops returned the fire. The attackers were suspected of being from the Tamil Eelam Army, which was not part of the cease-fire accord.

But Jaffna sources said the head of a Jaffna school who was organising sports contacts between the northern security forces and northern students was shot dead yesterday by people believed to be from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

The LTTE is one of the groups supposedly observing the cease-fire.

Some people contacted by AFP wondered if this shooting would be considered a violation of the cease-fire or was outside the agreement as it was not an attack on security forces.

Informed soruces told AFP that this killing not only indicated how fragile the cease-fire was but added new tensions.

Some people also expressed concern about a reported remark by the LTTE leader in Madras that his group would not participate in talks leading "nowhere" or would lay down arms and seek an anmesty.

An informed source who asked not to be named said the Sri Lanka delegation would be led by H.W. (Harry) Jayewardene, the lawyer brother of President Jayewardene who had been a special envoy to India for talks on the Tamil issue with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

He also led a delegation of lawyers this month to look at the Indian federal constitution and legal issues connected with the devolution of power, which Colombo has considered as a possible solution to the Tamil problem.

TULF sources have said a TULF delegation would meet with opposition parties here this weekend to see how far they are willing to go on the issue of devolution. The delegation next week will visit Madras, India, to brief TULF leaders there on the discussions. The Tamil-government meeting, expected to be in the first half of July, is likely to look at strengthening the terms and conditions of the cease-fire and other matters such as guidelines for the subsequent discussions, an informed source said.

Interpol Report Cited on Arms Smuggling

BK261204 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Interpol intelligence reports reaching the Criminal Investigation Department [CID] in Colombo reveal that Sikh terrorists fighting for a separate state in Punjab and the terrorists trying to establish Eelam [separate state] in the north and the east of Sri Lanka had received several shipments of sophisticated arms and ammunition from the same source of supply.

Security forces were quoted by Lankapuwath [Sri Lanka News Agency] as saying that the Singapore branch of Interpol investigations had revealed arms shipments were transhipped from that country. In two instances it had been detected the shipments had been declared as waste paper although the arms were, in fact, for use by terrorists in India and Sri Lanka. Although one shipment was detected in the port of Madras and the other in Singapore, several arms shipments had also been unloaded in Calcutta and moved to Punjab and Sri Lanka through a secret terrorist logistic network. The reports said that the arms were also [words indistinct] in other certain areas in India as well. Meanwhile, the Singapore Government has expelled a number of Sri Lanka Tamils after having canceled their resident visas as they were allegedly involved with the Tamil terrorists operating in Sri Lanka. A team of CID detectives are now in the UK and Europe in their efforts to (?catch) the international wing of arms smugglers through whom the purchases were made. The detectives are making their investigations with the assistance of Scotland Yard in the UK and other Interpol branches in Europe.

Majlis Speaker, Delegation Leave for PRC, Tokyo

LD261827 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 26, IRNA — Iran's Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani left Tehran for Beijing in an official visit heading a high-ranking Iranian delegation today. The delegation also includes Iran's Foreign Minister Velayati, Deputy Prime Minister in Charge of Executive Affairs Aqazadeh, and a group of ministerial and military advisers. In the second leg of his Asian tour the Majlis speaker is also to pay a five-day official visit to Tokyo from July first.

In an interview minutes before his departure to Beijing, Majlis speaker said that the People's Republic of China and Japan are the best countries with which the Islamic Republic can deal. He said there are pending projects between Iran and the two countries which he would follow up during his stay in the two capitals. He said Japan being an industrially-advanced Oriental country can fill in the vacant places of certain Western countries in the Iranian industries. He said China, too, relies on a long post-revolution experience in coping with her typical problems and can share her experiences with Iran.

Rafsanjani also said that during his stay in the two capitals he would also try to create a better understanding of the goals of the Islamic Revolution in the minds of the peoples of the two countries, and help to further relations between the Islamic Republic on the one side and China and Tokyo on the other.

Meanwhile Japan's Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said in an interview in Tokyo today that he is confident the scheduled visit to Tokyo by Iran's Majlis speaker Rafsanjani would help to further expand relations between the two countries.

The Japanese minister who was speaking in an interview with a few Iranian reporters there said during the stay in Tokyo of the Iranian delegation the officials of the two countries would also exchange views on international issues, world peace and bilateral relations. He said during his stay in Tokyo Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani would also meet Emperor Hirohito, Japan's Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and speakers of the House of Councillors and the House of Representatives at separate meetings.

Majlis speaker Rafsanjani is also expected to discuss with the Japanese officials issues in relation with a petrochemical project at Iran's Imam Khomeyni Port suspended by Japanese contracters in the wake of the Iraq-Iran war.

Cables Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

LD270610 Tehran IRNA in English 0537 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 27, IRNA — Majlis speaker Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani cabled a message to President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan while flying over the airspace of that country enroute to Beijing Thursday [27 June].

Sending warm greetings to the president, government and people of Pakistan, the message expressed the hope for further strengthening of fraternal relations between the two Muslim countries. Also in his message, Rafsanjani expressed the hope for further expansion of friendly ties and bilateral cooperation between Iran and Pakistan.

Rafsanjani and his political-economic delegation arrived in Beijing at 04:00 hours Tehran Time (00:30 GMT) Thursday and were welcomed by high-ranking Chinese officials.

Interviewed on Visit

LD261844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, left Tehran this afternoon at the head of a delegation of officials and personalities for official visits to China and Japan. Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati; Aqazadeh, deputy prime minister in charge of executive affairs; a number of the management and deputies from the Islamic Consultative Assembly, as well as directors of government companies and organizations are accompanying Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani in this trip. According to the report of our correspondent, the Majlis speaker and his delegation were seen off at Mehrabad Airport by some of the Majlis officials and deputies, some representatives from the president's office, some ministers and a number of military commanders.

Shortly before his departure for China and Japan, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani took part in an interview with our correspondent and talked about the aims of this visit, to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the esteemed speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran, is leaving for official visits to China and Japan at the head of a delegation of officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Before any other question, I wish to ask him what his aims are in visiting China, and what will be the chief topics discussed with Chinese officials.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This visit is at the invitation of China. Naturally, one should first ask them what the aims of this visit are and see what they had in mind by extending this invitation. In my view, according to the norms of international relations, these contacts and visits should be carried out so that the links can be strengthened. Well, both on Islamic and human grounds one should respond positively to invitations.

In any case, I believe that these two countries are important to us, both from political and economic points of view. Japan is a country which can fill many of the technical and industrial vaccums which have been created in Iran as the result of severing ties with America and some other Western countries. China is a big country. Nearly a quarter of the population of the world lives in China. The Chinese possess many experiences in the field of reconstruction after revolution. They have experienced post-revolutionary difficulties. They have also gained considerable successes in this field. We can make great use of their experiences. On the other hand, these two countries are Eastern nations, have much common ground with us in cultural fields,

and are important to us from that point of view too. In general, we feel that we have reached a stage where we should strengthen our relations with those countries with which we can have healthy relations. These two countries are among the best countries with which we can have relations and with which we can deal.

[Unidentified correspondent] You referred to some of the general points in the relations between Iran and China and Japan. In view of the formation of the delegation, please tell us what are the most specific issues which will be discussed during these visits.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] The formation of the delegation is parliamentarian and executive. There are a number of deputies from the Majlis who also belong to the Majlis management. Their presence in the delegation has a political significance. From the Ministry of foreign Affairs, there is the minister of and his advisers. Some of those who are in charge of political issues are accompanying me. From the executive point of view, there is the minister of state [as heard], His Excellency Mr Aqazadeh, who is accompanying us on behalf of the prime minister; and there are a number of deputy ministers. We also have many works [as heard] in the field of oil, petrochemicals, industries; and we have a number of outstanding issues with Japan and China concerning some of the projects for them to implement in Iran. I think that we can explain these issues after the trip. These are the most important issues.

[Unidentified correspondent] What results do you expect to accrue from this visit?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] The strengthening of our rleations with those countries. Of course, to some extent, there will also be the elucidation of the political positions and the explanation of the goals of the Islamic Revolution to the world; because whenever an opportunity arises for a visit, many ears will be opened to listen to views and many eyes will be opened to see what there is to see. It is an opportunity for us to correct some of the mistaken notions which have been created as the result of enemy propaganda and to put the Chinese and the Japanese people in the picture regarding the goals of the Islamic Revolution. In future such things will be useful. [End recording]

Prime Minister Regrets Closure of Daily

LD261803 Tehran IRNA in English 1744 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 26, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi expressed regret Wednesday at the closure of the *SOBH-E AZADEGAN* daily and said steps have been taken to have the paper published again. *SOBH-E AZADEGAN* was closed down on the order of the general prosecutor on Monday for "lacking publication permit".

The prime minister told IRNA that *SOBH-E AZADEGAN* has always been a supporter for the (political) line of imam, and a proclaimer of anti-liberal policies. "It has served the revolution with distinction and as the head of the government I regret its closure however short it may be," he said. Musavi said the government must appreciate the paper's support for "revolutionary administrators" and radical government policies in support of the deprived.

The prime minister said necessary powers have been given to the head of the Mustazafin Foundation to solve the legal aspects of the problem. The *SOBH-E AZADEGAN* was nationalized after the 1979 Islamic Revolution and put under the supervision of the Mustazafin Foundation.

Prime Minister Musavi said that "newspapers must bravely express their views and different tastes should not cause pressure on the media".

Montazeri Advises on How To Deal With Sinners

LD261337 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Excerpts] Members of Islamic societies of factories under the auspices of the National Industries Organization and a large number of people from Mashhad and other cities met with Ayatollah Montzeri yesterday.

Ayatollah Montazeri said: Today, it seems that those who should consider themselves the implementers of Koranic verses are the Islamic societies and organizations, institutes and factories. It is primarily they who should follow Islam and religious standards 100 percent in words and deeds, so that they could affect others. In the second place, their aim should be to enlighten and guide those who are ignorant of Islam and the revolution; they should also deal correctly and constructively with offenders and sinners who commit wrong.

He stressed: The important point is the way Islamic societies deal with such people. The brothers and sisters should note that offenders are in fact sick people, who should be dealt with delicately by the doctors, so that they can be cured. He stressed: people have different tastes and ideas. Not everybody is Hezbollahi from the beginning. Educational and family circumstances vary. As stated, Islamic societies are the implementers of Koranic verses. Secondly, with their good deeds and correct approach, they should encourage the people to do good deeds and enlighten them. Sinners, if they are hatching plots, confronting the revolution and Islam or disrupting a factory or an institute, should be dealt with legally, through judicial and security officials. But if they are not hatching plots, and are merely ideologically wrong, the Islamic societies should try to deal with them correctly, so that such people join in the Islamic atmospehre and repent their past deeds. They should not drive away such people from the Islamic and religious circles by exposing and disgracing them and causing confrontations.

Tehran Notes Iraq's Severing of Ties With Libya

LD262000 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] According to a report of the Central News Unit, following the decision of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to form an army for the liberation of Palestine, the Iraqi regime broke off diplomatic relations today with Libya.

According to a German news agency, Iraq announced today that it will expell the Libyan diplomatic mission from Baghdad and

will withdraw its recognition of the Libyan Government as a member of the Arab League. This issue was announced in a statement of the Iraqi regime's Foreign Affairs Ministry. In this statement it is also said that Iraq will recall its own diplomats from Libya.

Simultaneous with the severing of relations with Libya, which is a member of the Steadfastness Front, the Iraqi regime announced its agreement in principle to form a joint commission for cooperation with the Egytptian regime. On the other hand, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. Senate approved the appointment of their new ambassador to Iraq, David Nixon, on the eve of severing diplomatic relations between Libya and the Iraqi regime.

On the basis of a UP report, the Iraqi regime called upon all Arab countries today to condemn the strategic unity between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Libya and asked them to take the necessary measures for confronting these two countries.

Tehran Notes Kuwait Deportation of Iranians

LD261811 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] During the past few days, the Kuwaiti Government has deported another 236 Iranian workers from that shaykhdom. According to an IRNA report, among this group, who arrived in the country via the ports of Bushehr, Hendijan, Gonaveh and Deylam. there were a number of workers with residence permits and permission to work in that country. On the basis of this report, after arresting the said deportees, the Kuwaiti security police blindfolded them and took them to the headquarters of Kuwait's security police and during the interrogation, they were insulted and beaten up. At the time of deportation, the Kuwaiti police also confiscated their passports and assets.

IRNA Reports New Navy Commander Appointed

LD271051 Tehran IRNA in English 1044 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 27, IRNA — Imam Khomeyni, commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has appointed Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan as the commander of the Iranian Navy. The appointment was made on the suggestion of the Supreme Defense Council. Captain Malekzadegan replaces Captain Hoseyni as the commander of the Iranian Navy. In a decree issued Thursday, Imam Khomeyni expressed appreciation for the services of Captain Hoseyni.

Letters on Appointment

LD271136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] Following the resignation of Captain Hoseyni as commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, proposed Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan as commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. The imam of the ummah, while accepting the resignation of Capt Hoseyni and paying tribute to his efforts, approved the appointment of Capt Malekzadegan.

The text of the letter from President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, to the imam of the ummah is as follows: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Great leader of the revolution and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Your Great eminence Imam Khomeyni, may your shadow long continue. While paying tribute to the services of Captain Esfandiyar Hoseyni during the period of his appointment as commander of the Navy, in the implementation of Article 110 of the Constitution, the Supreme Defense Council accepted his resignation and proposes the appointment of Command Captain [nakhoda yakom] Farmandehi Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan as commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to your great eminence.

The text of the decree of the imam of the ummah is as follows: In his exalted name. While accepting the resignation of Capt Hoseyni and paying tribute to his efforts, I approve the appointment of Capt Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan as commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran; dated 27 June 1985.

[Signed] Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni

The text of the letter of resignation of Capt Hoseyni is as follows: To the exalted presence of the president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council. Greetings to you. As I have previously informed you, due to intense fatigue and illness I request that I be relieved from the post of commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic. If approved, I humbly beg you to communicate your order.

IRNA Reports on 26 June Majlis Session

LD261616 Tehran IRNA in English 1501 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 26, IRNA — Iran's Majlis (parliament) approved modifications in the presidential election bill and discussed a bill on the establishment of cooperatives when it met Wednesday.

Modification in the presidential election bill was proposed by the parliamentary committee and was approved after deliberations. The bill itself received a vote of approval Tuesday.

A bill for the establishment of pharmacy cooperatives in the deprived areas was introduced and deputies spoke against and in support of it, but the Majlis decided to deliberate it in its next session Thursday.

Before deliberations, three deputies spoke government policy on war and called for greater national effort. They also voiced the needs of their constituencies. Commenting on the war, Abdul 'Ali Ghanbari, deputy of Qa'emshahr, Mazandaran Province said "While Saddam's imposed war is being defeated, the very same criminal is plotting to impose peace on Iran."

The open session closed at noon.

Commentary on U.S. 'Plots' Against Palestinians
LD252024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1115 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani returned to Tehran today after a 5-day trip to the two fraternal and friendly countries of Libya and Syria. During his numerous meetings with the Libyan and Syrian leaders, Colonal al-Qadhdhafi and Hafiz al-Asad, and other high-ranking officials of those two countries, the Majlis speaker discussed with them the important and critical issues of the Middle East and Africa, and reached common solutions.

Present conspiracies against the Islamic world, confrontation against American imperialism, present plots against the Palestinian revolution, events in Lebanon, the role of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in the region and its future, OPEC issues and the need to safeguard and observe its regulations and resolutions, Chad's difficulties and problems, and the struggles of the South African people against the racist regime of Pretoria were among the issues discussed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the Syrian and Libyan officials.

At the moment the general situation in the Middle East and Islamic countries, from east to west, are faced with some very sensitive and important issues. The most central issue, namely the issue of Palestine and its future, is undergoing great change. While in southern Lebanon the Zionist regime has been practically defeated, and while American policy in all countries generally and in Lebanon in particular has been defeated as the result of the growth of Islamic and popular struggles, we see with our own eyes that those who until yesterday claimed to be standard bearers of Palestinian resistance, and who still make the same claim, have -- even more than others -- called for compromise with American imperialism and with the Zionist enemy. The formation of the Shah Husayn-Husni Mubarak-Saddam-'Arafat axis is in fact a new plot for defeating the successes achieved by the Muslims, and to make amends for the American failures in the region.

When, by attacking cities and residential areas, the Saddam regime reveals its complete defeat on the battle lines of the imposed war, cannot the expansion of its relations with America, and American satellites like Egypt, be regarded as America's fear of the Islamic revolution and its effects upon the region? At the moment, it has been made quite clear to all Muslims that the Iraqi regime, which condemned the steadfastness front for its lack of decisiveness, imposed the war upon the Islamic revolution. This forced the true anti-Zionist power to be preoccupied with the war, and this, in turn, enabled the Zionist enemy to attack Lebanon unopposed.

In order to confront the increasing Islamic and popular movement in the region, the reactionary Arab countries are in favor of discussions with the Zionist regime; even those who call themselves the leaders of the Palestinian people have openly laid down their arms — arms being the only method to liberate Jerusalem — and have become occupied with political games. They have completely given up hope of liberating all the occupied Palestinian lands. The liberation of Jerusalem has been forgotten. They have even agreed — in case America and Israel would agree — to be given a small piece of land on the West Bank so that they can have joint sovereignty of that land with the shah of Jordan.

Can the Palestinian revolution succeed, despite all these retreats and changes? Can the Palestinian people achieve their legitimate rights and return to their lands? The most important point is that in the agreement between Shah Husayn, 'Arafat, and other reactionary axes in the region, an attempt is being made to further expand dependence on America, so that the world of arrogance can increase its domination of the Islamic world. According to the Koran: "They desire to take Satan as their lord, while they have been commanded to rise against it." Therefore, all those forces which regard superpowers, especially American imperialism, as their supporters, and who wish to achieve their rights through America, have turned their backs not only on their own aspirations, but even on the Muslim people of the region.

The argument used by all of them is that maybe, through the expansion of their relations with American imperialism, they can ask it to put pressure upon Israel, hoping that they would gain some sovereignty and the return of their rights. This is done despite the fact that rights should be regained. It is not something which can be achieved as the result of the generosity of he who has usurped that right. This group of rulers and governments, and the peoples of Arab countries with this outlook, have, in effect, forgotten their reliance upon Islam and their own people and, instead, have taken refuge in the bosom of Satan and blasphemy.

Under such conditions, revolutionary and progressive Islamic countries regard it as their first duty to fight against these deviationist lines in one common and united front.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, during his visit to Libya and Syria, and in his contacts with people and with active Islamic groups, constantly stressed the need for joint activity of all Islamic and sincere groups. It is hoped that in the future, as the result of devising and acting upon a common and clear strategy, the American and Zionist plots to divert attention from the Palestinian issue and to threaten Muslim countries, especially Iran, Iraq, Syria, Libya and Lebanon, will be defeated.

Ba'labakk Muslims Warn U.S. Against Using Naval Force
LD261208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, today's press in Beirut has published a statement by the revolutionary Muslims of Ba'labakk, in the east of Lebanon, in which they warn America against the use of its fleet for military purposes against the strugglers in Lebanon. The statement says, among other things: Reagan's government should know that those who were able to stick their publicity statements and posters on the aircraft carrier "New Jersey" and on other warships in the coastal waters of Lebanon, are also able to destroy the American fleet or other forces intending to deliver blows at the strugglers. The people of

the world should know that we are able to deliver blows at the Americans in Washington, even inside the White House.

The statement adds: We ask the world of those who are fighting for freedom to put pressure on America so that the strugglers in Israeli prisons are released without any preconditions.

The statement ends: With complete vigilance, we are always prepared to confront tyranny, oppression and world arrogance, headed by the great satan, America. Whoever plans to deliver blows at us should be prepared for response.

Tehran: United States Uses Threats, Not Action
GF270836 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The feverish U.S. threats against the Lebanese people have intensified following the failure of attempts to release the U.S. hostages, as represented by threats of occupation, the imposition of an economic blockade, and closure of Beirut airport. However, these measures have not exceeded the limit of threats. These threats are merely followed by more threats as the United States' position does not permit any action beyond threats. This very position is evidence of the total weakness of U.S. military power, as stated by a senior U.S. official. He said that while the United States possesses superpower might, the question is how to use this power.

The problem still plaguing the United States is the outcome of its aggression against the Islamic people. It still bears the scars of the blows it received in Iran from the Islamic revolution and in the Tabas incident. It also cannot forget the blows it received at the hands of the Lebanese masses when the U.S. Embassy and Marines' headquarters were blown up. These incidents are alive in the U.S. memory and in the inner minds of every U.S. official. Such officials remember these incidents whenever they make a decision dealing with perpetrating aggression against other Muslim people. All the Reagan administration can do is to make threats. This is the basis from which U.S. policy stems when tackling the issue of U.S. hostages. It could be that the hijackers have discovered the clear U.S. weakness through the way these threats have been made and through the policy the United States continues to pursue. Thus, they have turned a deaf ear to all the threats made so far by the Reagan administration.

In discussing this fact, we are not just discussing the issue of the hijacked U.S. plane, its dimensions and consequences. The point we are trying to make is that the phenomenon of the weakness of U.S. military power vis-a-vis the changes that take place in the popular arena is clear to everyone. The benefits grasped from understanding this phenomenon will be useful to all the peoples who are under the claws of U.S. aggression. These peoples can begin their struggle against U.S. imperialism without any consideration of U.S. military power. It is true that the United States could use its military power in critical situations as it did in Tabas, in Lebanon, and in Grenada. What we said earlier does not imply that Lebanon has become immune from U.S. military aggression. But, any aggressive step undertaken by the United States will bring about no better results than those which it has achieved in Lebanon and in other places in the past. Any such attempt will only result in total failure and permanent disappointment for the politicians of the White House.

Tehran Claims Iraq Behind Gulf Terrorism
GF251912 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 25 Jun 85

[Text] IRNA reports that after revealing the Iraqi regime's responsibility for the assassination attempt against the amir of Kuwait, the Kuwaiti security forces arrested a number of agents for the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime who had suspect connections with the regime's embassy in Kuwait.

Quoting information from the Kuwaiti security forces, the IRNA report said that on the morning of 8 June, a number of agents for the Ba'thist Iraqi regime were arrested. They were arrested while trying to enter the Iraqi Embassy. The report adds that on 8 June, Kuwaiti security forces besieged the Iraqi Embassy, and work at the administrative section was halted. On 7 June agents for the Ba'thist regime and agents for the Iraqi Embassy were pursued in the area of Al-Khalidiyah, northern Kuwait, by Kuwaiti security men and Defense Ministry operatives. During this pursuit, the sound of firing was heard in the area. After the area was searched, a group of agents for the Iraqi regime were arrested.

The report said that Kuwaiti security forces are sensitive over the disappearance of a number of suspected number of persons and agents for the Iraqi regime who immediately disappeared after the assassination attempt against the amir of Kuwait. The Kuwaiti security forces are pursuing them all over Kuwait. It is not clear yet whether the arrested people were handed over to Kuwait or whether they are still being interrogated.

In another development, a sabotage group working at Iraq's orders to carry out acts of sabotage and terrorism in Bahrain has been uncovered. Bahraini security forces have arrested this group.

This is what has been reported by the newspaper *FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE*. The paper said: Activities of this group were planned so that the Iranians would appear to be responsible for these operations. The paper said: Two members of this group were arrested while they were trying to plant a bomb in Manama, the capital of Bahrain.

After investigations by Bahraini security authorities and after receiving secret information from these 2 members, 11 persons who had connections with acts of sabotage were arrested. When the members of this group were interrogated, it became clear that the Iraqi spy organization was planning to plant bombs in a number of government places in Bahrain and then hold the Iranians responsible for these acts.

Investigations also revealed that the explosion which took place in the city of Riyadh on 18 May and which coincided with the Saudi foreign minister's visit to Tehran was a result of such acts of saboage by the Iraqi regime.

Further on Attack on Amir

LD262358 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 26, IRNA — Baghdad has stationed columns of its border guards inside an area in Kuwait, according to sources in that country.

The Iraqi Government has territorial claims against Kuwait and its forces have now crossed the border into an area on which Iraq has long since laid claims. The penetration of the Iraqi troops into Kuwait is one in a series of similar encroachments into the country's territory since 1984.

Recently a group of Iraqi secret agents crossed the Iraq-Kuwait border in Abdi of Kuwait and established themselves at the compounds of the Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait. Their clandestine arrival in Kuwait was immediately after the fiasco of Baghdad's aborted plot against the life of the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah on June 4th. In the wake of the unsuccessful attempt against the life of the amir the Kuwaiti police discovered a terrorist group of Iraqi nationals in that country and arrested some of its members. One member of the group who is said to have clandestinely driven an Iraqi truck without a licence plate to Kuwait is still at large and wanted by the Kuwaiti police. He is charged with complicity in the attempt against the life of the amir of Kuwait.

The Iraqi Government is said to have procured recently the clandestine entry to Kuwait through its land border with that country of many trucks, jeeps, range-rovers without routine border inspection of their loads.

IRNA: 100 Kurdish Rebels Killed in Kordestan

LD270323 Tehran IRNA in English 1858 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Sanandaj, Kordestan Prov., June 26, IRNA — At least one hundred armed members of outlawed leftist groups among them principal members of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) have been killed or wounded in fresh encounters between them and the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps in Kordestan Province of Iran, according to an IRGC commander here today.

In the wake of the fighting at least 15 villages in the province have been mopped with the IRGC members establishing themselves in those villages. The IRGC commander also said that as a result of the fighting some armed members of outlawed leftist parties have fled into the Iraqi territory.

The commander said that during the first three months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-June 21) some 600 ex-members of outlawed parties have surrendered themselves to Iran's Muslim fighters and voluntarily abjured their former convictions. He added during the current fighting between members of the IRGC and the armed rebels in the province significant documents have been seized from them.

In the wake of the fighting so far the strategic road of Suteh-Bastam midway between the villages of Masidar-Sheykh and Suteh have been cleared of armed counterevolutionaires.

The IRGC commander in the province has also called on the remaining members of the outlawed leftist parties to surrender themselves to Iran's Muslim forces and return to the fold of Islam rather than engage in operations which will only serve the aims of the enemies of the Islamic Republic.

Reportage, Comment on War With Iraq

Jerusalem-II Successes

LD261758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1634 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] In connection with the Jerusalem-II operations, the following communique was issued by the Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters tonight as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. At 2000 hours last night, the warriors of Islam launched Jerusalem-II operations in the Hur al-'Azim region and, by penetrating enemy positions, succeeded in mopping up another area of this region and consolidating new positions. In the course of these operations, the combatants of Islam also succeeded in killing more than 100 enemy troops, wounding another large group and capturing 12 of them. During these operations, 15 enemy boats were destroyed in the Hur al-'Azim region together with several anti-aircraft guns and other heavy weapons of the enemy. The combatants of Islam also captured some enemy arms and equipment intact.

The forces of Islam succeeded in destroying 15 enemy riparian posts in this region. The 68th Brigade of the Iraqi Special Forces, which had been dispatched to this region after the first phase of the victorious Jerusalem operations in order to halt the advance of the corps of Islam, suffered heavy blows in the course of these operations and the forces of Islam completely annihilated several units of this brigade.

[Signed] The Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, the Joint Operational Center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 2,126

LD261808 Tehran IRNA in English 1728 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 26 IRNA — An Iranian Army unit staged a limited attack on Iraqi positions in the early hours of Wednesday in Pajwin, said the Joint Staff Command. All forces returned safely to their base, the command reported in its daily communique No. 2,126 today.

The I.R.I. combatants killed and wounded 50 Iraqi troops and destroyed 30 bunkers, five mortor launchers, two ammunition depots and a number of vehicles. The attack started with the code "Ya-allah, ya-allah, ya-allah".

The command also said Iraqi units had launched an unsuccessful attack on the day before in the Nahr-Anbar area but were forced to retreat under Iranian fire.

Reporting other action in the front lines, the command said that Iran's Muslim combatants killed and wounded 16 other Iraqi soldiers in the western front in the exchange of fire in the western front and destroyed seven Iraqi bunkers, one mortar launcher, and one vehicle.

In the vicinity of Haj 'Umran and Sardasht the exchange of fire killed and wounded an undetermined number of Iraqi troops, it said.

In the southern front sporadic fire between the two sides continued and on the shores of the Arvand River. Iran's gendarmeri troops killed 13 enemy soldiers and destroyed 7 of their bunkers and one ammunition depot.

Enemy's long range artillery fire destroyed a number of houses in the ports of Khorramshahr and Abadan.

Further Details

LD261812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] In a communique the joint staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced: During the past 24 hours an exchange of fire continued on the western operational fronts and as a result seven enemy squad trenches and observation posts, one mortar launcher and one heavy machinegun were destroyed and one vehicle and another mortar launcher were also damaged and more than 15 Saddamists were either killed or wounded.

According to the same report yesterday morning an enemy patrol group twice attempted to penetrate our units' positions in the vicinity of the Anbar River, but thanks to the vigilance and timely fire of Islam's troops the said patrol fled from the scene.

Our gendarmerie combatants in the Arvand Rud region, too, by opening retaliatory fire, while disrupting enemy fighting activities, destroyed seven enemy squad trenches, one observation post and one ammunition hut and killed some 17 Ba'thists.

During the past 24 hours the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr came under enemy long-range fire and as a result of a few residential houses were damaged.

Kurds Attack Iraqi Command HQ

LD270557 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] A Kurdish mobilization group of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq crossed countless bases of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime Sunday night [23 June] and attacked a command headquarters deep inside the Diyanah region. The headquarters, located in the (Farivar) Gorge, came under fire, and several missiles were fired at it. As a result more than 35 Ba'thist military officials were annihilated and a number of others were wounded. The Iraqi Muslim Kurdish mujahidin, after this successful attack, blew up an enemy [words indistinct] vehicle by exploding a bomb within 100 meters of Qadha Sadeq garrison; and after killing and wounding more than 15 troops of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist forces, they returned to their bases safely.

Iraqi Counterattacks Thwarted

LD271108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jun 85

[Text] According to a Central News Unit Report based on a report frm Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, the joint operational center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, following the victorious Qods-II operations culminating in the mopping up of 20 square km of the Hawr al-'Azim region, the defeated enemy began two counterattacks last night and today, but these were repulsed thanks to the manly courage and steadfastness of Islam's combatants. Further heavy blows and losses were inflicted on Iraq's Zionist regime's forces.

According to this report, during these clashes Islam's combatants killed or wounded large numbers of enemy forces, inflicted heavy blows at Iraq's 701st Commando Brigade, and shot down one of their helicopters over the waters of the Hawr al-'Azim. According to this report Islam's combatants, while being deployed in the captured positions, are already strengthening and consolidating their positions.

Radio Iran Reports Musavi Resignation

GF261600 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] In Tehran it has been reported that Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Khomeyni's prime minister, has resigned. According to nationalist elements within the premier's office, he has announced that due to stomach ulcers he is unable to continue his duties. According to the same report, the news of Mir Hoseyn Musavi's resignation has not been announced by the Islamic Republic. It is not known whether his resignation has been approved by Khomeyni or not.

In Tehran it is being reported that 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the regime's foreign minister, will probably take his place. Some time ago Hashemi-Rafsanjani had requested the Council of Guardians to amend (?the clause) in the Islamic Republic's Constitution pertaining to the resignation of a prime minister.

Nejat-e Iran on Dismissal Rumors

GF281816 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Tehran reported that rumors of the dismissal of Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Khomeyni's prime minister, are growing. As our listeners know, the differences and rivalry between President Khamene'i and the mullahs' Majlis speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani over the past few weeks have intensified.

The dismissal of Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the regime's prime minister who is supported by the president, indicates a victory for Hashemi-Rafsanjani over the incompetent president. With the removal of the regime's prime minister, the reelection of Khamene'i to the presidency is questionable. It is reported that 'Ali Akbar Velayati is most likely to succeed Musavi.

Nejat-e Iran on Resumption of Iraqi Bombing
GF261800 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jun 85

[Text] The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in the Persian Gulf reported that in a messages broadcast in Arabic, Persian, English, and French in the past 48 hours from Baghdad Radio and which could be clearly heard in the Emirates, Iraq once again warned the residents of Tehran and other districts as well as foreign diplomats residing in our country that they should evacuate residential areas by Friday evening.

Iraq had suspended bombing and missile attacks on Tehran and other cities in our country for 15 days on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr. But after the end of the specified period and the nonacceptance by the Khomeyni regime of peace negotiations, once again the homelessness and vagrancy of the residents in the capital and in large and small towns throughout the country will begin the day after tomorrow with the resumption of Iraqi attacks.